THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (c) Only three irrigation projects are pending for environmental clearance. Details of these projects are given below:-

Sl. No.	State	Project Details	Received on	Status
1.	Maharashtra	Lower Penganga project in District Yatmal by Government of Maharashtra	10.01.2007	Considered by the Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC) on 21.02.2006. Additional information was sought by the Committee.
2.	Madhya Pradesh	Punasa Lift irrigation project in district Khandwa by Narmada Valley Development Authority.	19.04.2006	EAC considered the project twice, on 17.05.2006 & 17.01.2007. Additional information was sought by the EAC.
3.		Lower Gol Irrigation project in district Barawni by Narmada Valley Development Authority.	4.11.2006	Discussion on proposal was deferred by EAC on 20.12.06 as Public hearing report, was not received by the members of EAC.

(d) The project authorities have been reminded for submitting the additional information *vide* letters dated 09.03.2007, 7.3.2007 & 7.3.2007 respectively.

Damage to environment

†2021. SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS:
SHRI VINAY KATIYAR:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) which of the following damage the environment most:- (i) industries or agriculture; (ii) cities or villages; (iii) plastic vegetations;

(b) the percentage of increase/decrease in deforestation during the last three years, State-wise; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) the States where effective centres/research facilities are provided to save environment and forests?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Closing of crusher companies

†2022. SHRI KAMAL AKHTAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that certain plots of Paini Kumari at the Kerseong block in the district of Darjeeling in West Bengal have been given illegally on lease to some companies;

(b) whether the companies are engaged in the work of stone chips and crushing causing a great harm to the environment;

(c) whether the health of hundres of students of a Government primary school located nearby is affected because of the dust of the crusher;

(d) if so, whether Government propose to close the said crusher as early as possible taking into notice of the health of poor public and the children and the surrounding environment; and

(e) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) No diversion of forest has been allowed by the Central Government under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for stone-crushing unit in Kerseong Block in Darjeeling District in West Bengal.

(b) According to the report received from West Bengal Pollution Control Board (WBPCB), stone crushing is a polluting industry. However, the company under the name and style of M/s Progressive Construction Limited at Paina Kumari Jote, Simulbari, PO-Siliguri, in Darjeeling District had obtained NOC of the West Bengal Pollution Control Board on 12.07.2000. The NOC was issued by the General Manager, District Industries Centre, Darjeeling, for manufacturing stone crushed aggregate (360 T/day).

---

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.